

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:
  - recording means for recording the identification information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus;
  - receiving means for receiving the identification information on said other information processing apparatus, sent from said other information processing apparatus, when said other information processing apparatus is connected via said network;
  - verifying means for verifying whether or not said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said other recording means; and
  - controlling means for controlling said other information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by said verifying means.
2. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said identification information includes the serial number of said other information processing apparatus.
3. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said controlling means causes said other information processing apparatus to execute first setting processing when it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said recording means, said controlling means causing said other information processing apparatus to execute second setting

processing when it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has not as yet been recorded in said recording means.

4. The information processing apparatus according to claim 3 wherein said first and setting processing and the second setting processing represent setting processing necessary for said other information processing apparatus to utilize said network.

5. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said controlling means sends an address on said network of a server used for connecting said other information processing apparatus to said network, to said other information processing apparatus, and sets the address so sent, as the information necessary for said other information processing apparatus to utilize said network.

6. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein

    said recording means further records the inherent information for specifying a user of said other information processing apparatus;

    said controlling means requests transmission of said inherent information to said other information processing apparatus if it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said recording means.

7. The information processing apparatus according to claim 6 wherein said inherent information includes a password.

8. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4 wherein if it is verified that said identification information received by said receiving means has as yet not

been recorded on said recording means, said controlling means requests said other information processing apparatus to transmit the information on a user exploiting said other information processing apparatus.

9. An information processing method for an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

a recording controlling step of controlling the recording of the identification information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving the identification information on said other information processing apparatus, sent from said other information processing apparatus when said other information processing apparatus is connected via said network;

a verifying step of verifying whether or not said identification information received by processing in said receiving step has already been controlled as to recording in said other recording step in the processing in said recording controlling step; and

a controlling step of controlling said other information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by the processing in said verifying step.

10. A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program controlling an information processing apparatus connected to a network, said program including:

a recording controlling step of controlling the recording of the identification

information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus;

    a receiving step of receiving the identification information on said other information processing apparatus, sent from said other information processing apparatus when said other information processing apparatus is connected via said network;

    a verifying step of verifying whether or not said identification information received by the processing in said receiving step has already been controlled as to recording in the processing in said recording controlling step; and

    a controlling step of controlling said other information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by the processing in said verifying step.

11. An information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

    storage means for storing the identification information;

    transmission means for transmitting said identification information stored in said storage means over said network to an other information processing apparatus;

    receiving means for receiving the control information transmitted from said other information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted from said transmission means; and

    setting means for setting the information necessary for utilizing said network based on said control information received by said receiving means.

12. The information processing apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said setting means sets the information necessary for exploiting said network in a first mode when

said control information received by said receiving means is the first control information; said setting means setting the information necessary for exploiting said network in a second mode when said control information received by said receiving means is the second control information.

13. The information processing apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said setting means executes first setting processing when the identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said other information processing apparatus; said setting means executing second setting processing when the identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said other information processing apparatus.

14. The information processing apparatus according to claim 13 wherein said first setting processing and the second setting processing represent information setting processing necessary for said information processing apparatus to exploit said network.

15. The information processing apparatus according to claim 14 wherein said setting means receives an address on said network of a server connecting said information processing apparatus to said network, as the information necessary in exploiting said network, and sets the so received address.

16. The information processing apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said other information processing apparatus further stores the inherent information used for specifying a user of said information processing apparatus;  
    said setting means transmitting said inherent information to said other

information processing apparatus if said identification information transmitted by said transmission means has already been recorded in said other information processing apparatus.

17. The information processing apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said inherent information includes a password.

18. The information processing apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said setting means transmits the information pertinent to a user employing said other information processing apparatus to said other information processing apparatus if said identification information transmitted by said transmission means has as yet not been recorded in said other information processing apparatus.

19. An information processing method for an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

a storage controlling step of controlling the storage of the identification information;

a transmission step of transmitting said identification information controlled as to storage by processing in said storage controlling step over said network to an other information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving the control information transmitted from said other information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step; and

a setting step of setting the information necessary for utilizing said network

based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step.

20. A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program controlling an information processing apparatus connected to a network, said program including

    a storage controlling step of controlling the storage of the identification information;

    a transmission step of transmitting said identification information controlled as to storage by processing in said storage controlling step over said network to an other information processing apparatus;

    a receiving step of receiving the control information transmitted from said other information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step; and

    a setting step of setting the information necessary for utilizing said network based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step.